

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 421

By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION congratulating Nicky Anosike, member of the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers 2007 National Championship team.

WHEREAS, in a spirited display of athleticism and teamwork, the University of Tennessee Lady Vols once again reign supreme, as they captured the coveted 2007 NCAA Women's Basketball Championship by soundly defeating Rutgers University, 59-46; and

WHEREAS, led by Coach Pat Summitt, the preeminent basketball coach in all of women's college basketball, the Lady Vols further etched their place in college basketball lore with the victory over the Scarlet Knights before a capacity crowd of mostly orange-clad faithful in Cleveland; and

WHEREAS, challenged by Coach Summitt in her pre-game talk to win for the throngs of faithful Lady Vol followers, the team responded in typical fashion by dominating Rutgers from the game's outset, firmly establishing Tennessee as the most successful basketball program in the history of women's intercollegiate athletics; and

WHEREAS, without the diligent work ethic and extraordinary talent of each team member, this astounding victory would not have been possible; one such team member is junior Nicky Anosike of Staten Island, New York, who plays center; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Ngozi Anosike, Ms. Anosike graduated from St. Peter's High School and is currently majoring in Sociology/Criminal Justice and Political Science/Legal Studies; and

WHEREAS, during the 2006-2007 season, Nicky Anosike reached double-digit rebounds in just nineteen minutes of action and finished a game with sixteen boards, the most ever by a Lady Vol and the third most ever in an NCAA title game and her career high; she was also named to the NCAA Final Four All-Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, during the 2005-2006 season, Ms. Anosike was ranked 14th in the UT record books in career blocks and voted a preseason first-team All-SEC selection by the league coaches; she was also named to the ESPN The Magazine All-District IV Third Team and earned SEC All-Academic honors; and

WHEREAS, during the 2004-2005 season, on the SEC All-Freshman Team, Ms. Anosike was the only Lady Vol to achieve double-digit rebounds in the Final Four game against Michigan State; her thirteen boards were also a career high; named to the Lady Vols Honor Roll, she also earned a spot on the SEC All-Academic Freshman Team; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly and Lady Vol fans everywhere take great delight in honoring each member of this extraordinary group of young women who have contributed mightily to the successful legacy of University of Tennessee Women's Basketball; and

WHEREAS, Nicky Anosike's determination, work ethic, and talent have not only made possible a memorable and successful basketball career, but also surely point toward her success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, Nicky Anosike epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Nicky Anosike, center for the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers 2007 National Championship team, for her hard work and determined play during the 2006-2007 season and wish her every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.